

**Town of Monkton
Conservation Commission
Minutes**

Tuesday, 9/8/26 - 6:30 PM

Virtual meeting via zoom

Approved: TBD

Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8024533800?pwd=QnlTb20weWwxTEhuSmZ2RENyR3ZzUT09>

Members: Ann Miller, Jaime Schulte (joined a bit late), Debra Sprague, Janet Schwarz, Sue Stasny, David Moore, Chuck Soule

1. Ann called the meeting to order@ 6:34 pm
2. Public comments - None
3. Regular Business
 - a. Reviewed Agenda
 - i. Debra asked to add Buckthorn Removal and Amphibian Crossings Work Day
 - b. Reviewed minutes 8/11/26
 - i. Debra made a motion to accept; Ann 2nd; Passed (5-0-1). Jan abstained due to missing the August meeting and Jaime wasn't there yet.
 - c. October meeting set for Tuesday, 10/13/26 @ 6:30pm via Zoom
 - d. November meeting set for Tuesday, 11/10/26 @ 6:30pm via zoom.
4. Other Business
 - a. Budget for 2027

Debra will email Stan for info on submitting the MCC budget.
 - b. Pond Brook Management Plan -
 - i. The Subcommittee (Sue, Ann, and Jan) have been meeting on Zoom and going through the old plan.
 - ii. Jan has gone over the Monkton Land Records with Sharon Gomez and filled in as much data as possible.
 - iii. Sue posted the PBCA Management Plan Draft on Google Docs- and sent the link to Steve Parren, Laura Farrell, and Adam Piper. She asked for input by our meeting on 10/13/26; Sue will resend link to Google docs with Pond Brook Management Plan to the MCC.
 - iv. Jan will add the Appendix Chart regarding the Contributors of property, Acreage, Date obtained by the Town of Monkton, Name of Parcel, and Property # for each, for all of the Acreage encompassed by the Pond Brook Conservation Area.

c. Amphibian Crossing Updates

- i. Steve Parren came to Meeting on 8/11/26 and discussed the responses from S.D. Ireland regarding fixing/replacing the cement blocks.
- ii. Chuck reached out to Ken Warren, Engineering Ventures
- iii. Talked with OtterCreek - suggested Greg Sellers
- iv. Chuck will reach out to Greg Sellers to see if he is interested in evaluating the crossing
- v. Ann will reach out to Chris Slesar
- vi. Camera Update - Jan has purchased a camera card reader to transfer pictures to a computer.
- vii. David discussed asking if UVM student might be interested in project downloading pictures and analyzing them. He has a friend who's a Biology major at UVM
- viii. Jan will contact Alicia Daniels
- ix. Conserving habitat adjacent to Amphibian Crossing Update

d. Knotweed

- i. Presentation by Kate Kelley (LCA) on Tuesday, 9/22/26 @7:00pm in Monkton Town Hall Community Room
- ii. Jan will bring refreshments and paper goods.
- iii. Tape record Kate for possible program on WVVT
 - 1. David will get recording equipment
 - 2. Jan will get cider & donuts

e. Community Radio - subcommittee update

- i. Jan contacted Jane Lindholm last Tuesday to see if she would share interviewing tips; She is still willing. The subcommittee will meet with the 5-town Conservation Commission delegates
- ii. First recording on 9/22/26 - LCA Knotweed program
- iii. New Haven 9/19/26 @ 9am at Monkton Town Forest - Bat Walk - Habitat;
David will get recording equipment to tape

f. Speaker Series - Chuck

- i. LCA

g. Concerns or Interests of Members

- i. Jan would like our monthly Agenda to be posted on FPF. There was discussion of pros and cons, but no decision was made.
- ii. Buckthorn Workday - 10/10/26 @ 9:00 - 11:30am behind MCS.
- iii. Amphibian Crossings Workday - 11/7/26 @9:30am - 12 noon.
- iv. Rain date - Saturday, 11/14/26

- v. Jaime brought up the Special Town Meeting on Tuesday, 9/15/26 @ Monkton Central School @ 7:00pm. There was a discussion on the Meeting's topic of changing voting on Monkton's yearly town budget via Australian Ballot vs in-person voting on Town Meeting Day, as it currently is.

- h. Walk up Mt Philo & Poetry - Eli Clare - 11:00am @ Mt. Philo State Park
 - i. Part of the VT State Parks, "Words in the Woods" series.
 - ii. Sponsored by Vermont Humanities Council - Free
 - iii. Jan sent link to MCC members

5. Sue made the motion to adjourn at 7:32pm. Debra seconded. Passed (7-0-0).

Respectfully Submitted,
Janet Schwarz